Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 069804 ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 MC-02 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /058 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:SGEIS:RG APPROVED BY PM/SAS:SWINSHIP PM/MC - MR. ROBINSON EUR/SE - MR. EWING DOD/DSAA - MR. RUDD

-----301138Z 044587 /10

R 292329Z MAR 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS INFO USCINCEUR DOD/DSAA

UNCLAS STATE 069804

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, GR

SUBJECT: TANK MANUFACTURING FACILITY IN GREECE

REF: ATHENS 2246

1. PARA 4 REFTEL STATES THAT LOCAL CHRYSLER AND FMC REPS HAVE RECEIVED INVITATION TO BID ON GREEK PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH MAIN BATTLE TANK PRODUCTION FACILITY. WE THEREFORE SEE NO NEED FOR SEPARATE NOTIFICATION TO CHRYSLER ET AL BY USG AS SUGGESTED IN REFTEL. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT SUCH NOTIFICATION MIGHT BE INTERPRETED AS USG ENDORSEMENT OF PROJECT BEFORE WE HAVE HAD TIME TO REVIEW POLICY IMPLICATIONS.

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PAGE 02 STATE 069804

2. USG IS PRESENTLY ENGAGED IN GENERAL REVIEW OF ARMS TRANSFER POLICY INCLUDING QUESTIONS OF COPRODUCTION AND COMMERCIAL LICENSING AGREEMENTS. UNTIL THE REVIEW IS COMPLETED, WE ARE NOT IN POSITION TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF PARTICIPATION BY US FIRMS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ARMS MANUFACTURING FACILITIES OVERSEAS.

- 3. FOR PRESENT, WE PREFER CONSIDERING GREEK PROPOSAL AS COMMERCIAL REQUEST, LEAVING IT TO US COMPANIES TO DECIDE IN FIRST INSTANCE WHETHER PROJECT MAKES TECHNICAL AND COMMERCIAL SENSE. IF DECISION POSITIVE, US FIRMS WOULD HAVE TO REQUEST MUNITIONS LICENSE NECESSARY FOR EXPORT OF REQUIRED TECHNICAL DATA.
- 4. TO ASSIST US IN CONSIDERING GREEK PROPOSAL, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING EMBASSY VIEWS ON HOW GREECE PLANS TO FINANCE PROJECT, WHETHER, AND IF SO TO WHAT EXTENT, PROJECT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO US OBJECTIVES PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF NATO FORCE STRUCTURE GOALS AND POSSIBLE STANDARDIZATION OBJECTIVES, AND IF GREECE PLANS EXPORT OUTPUT OR WOULD REQUIRE EXPORT OF SOME PORTION OF OUTPUT TO ASSURE VIABILITY OF PROJECT.
- 5. IF ASKED FOR USG POSITION ON PROPOSAL, EMBASSY SHOULD STATE WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION AT THIS TIME TO COMMENT ON THE PROPOSAL FOR REASONS CITED IN PARA 2 ABOVE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED**

Concepts: TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES), PROPOSALS (BID), JOINT VENTURES, ARMS PRODUCTION

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 29-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment:

Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE069804
Document Source: Concept Co

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: SGEIS:RG Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D770108-1195

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770310/aaaaaiby.tel

Line Count: 83 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 9d8f07ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PM

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 ATHENS 2246

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 20-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:**

Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2933738 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: TANK MANUFACTURING FACILITY IN GREECE TAGS: MASS, GR, US

To: ATHENS Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9d8f07ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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